

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Final Rejection that claims 27-38 and 44-46 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 24-46 have been canceled in favor of new claims 47-63. Support for the features recited in claims 47-63 is provided in canceled claims 24-46 and original claims 1-23.

New claim 47 recites features of allowable claim 27 and its base claim 24. Independent claims 59 and 60 similarly recite the features of allowable apparatus claim 47. Claim 61 recites features of allowable claim 27 in a method claim.

The present amendments are believed to obviate the rejections applied to claims 24-26 and 39-43.

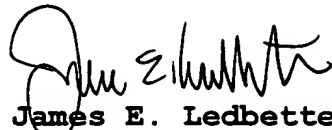
Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that allowance of base claims 47 and 59-61 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone

the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JEL/DWW/att

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